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### NEW PROGRAM FOR MOROCCO

#### I. Newly appointed Resident General--Francis

Lacoste--arrived French Morocco 14 June.

- A. Lacoste inherits bitter legacy hate, distrust left by two military predecessors.
- B. Appointment is Paris attempt re-establish order, French-Moroccan co-operation after 9 months' anti-French terrorism.
- C. Lacoste able career diplomat; long, wide experience, including Morocco (number two man French Residency 1947-1950, under Marshal Juin).
- D. Staunch advocate French position Morocco, but personally favors moderate policy: intends "iron hand in silken glove."

#### II. Lacoste program not yet clear. High

Foreign Ministry source states:

- A. Near future announcement long-term "evolutionary" program but neither timing nor final relationship to be specified.

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1. Program to plug Moroccan sovereignty;

fact that August 1953 reforms only  
one step to final goal.

2. French role local government to  
decrease as Moroccan capacity  
increases.

B. However, no change sultan anticipated  
near future.

C. Lacoste first steps include:

1. Conference some elements Moroccan  
nationalists he invited Paris.  
2. Proposal granting clemency nationalist  
political prisoners.

III. Prospects appear dim, since program fails

indicate new, bold policy needed promote  
real settlement.

A. Too vague--no specific concessions yet  
indicated.

B.. Fails specify final relationship or time  
factor--both which primary nationalist  
objectives.

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C. Issue of French role in local government.

-enforced on 50-50 basis by August 1953  
reforms and immediate cause ouster  
former sultan--remains major stumbling  
bloc for both nationalists and French  
settlers.

D. Return former sultan remains major  
nationalist objective.

E. Meanwhile, local reaction initial  
Lacoste proposals bitter both sides.

1. French veterans organization

Casablanca condemn Lacoste's alleged  
amnesty plan and intent negotiate  
with nationalists as "criminal and  
treasonable."

2. On 12 June, veterans' office wrecked  
by bombs.

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3. Paramount Berber, El Glaoui, staunchly

anti-nationalist Pasha Marrakech and  
principal native engineer sultan's  
deposition hints that friends of  
France in Morocco will not give  
Lacoste confidence if he shows  
clemency to nationalists.

4. Nationalists in turn now expanding  
terrorism to include crop burning--  
burned 115 acres grain in past week.

F. American observers Morocco convinced  
drastic measures required to restore  
co-operation; agree minimum necessary:

1. Replace sultan with someone acceptable  
Moroccans.

2. Release nationalist prisoners, as  
only ones who command respect  
Moroccans.

3. French negotiation with established  
nationalist leaders.

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